



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Frank Filser et al. Confirmation No.: 1826
Serial No. : 09/623,268
Filed : August 30, 2000
TC/A.U. : 1731
Examiner : C. Fiorilla

Docket No. : 00-497
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111(C)

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated January 2, 2004 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire April 2, 2004, having been extended for one month so as to expire on May 2, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 12 of this paper.